

Report of the Governor's Address.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Under Rule 18 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mysore Legislative Assembly, I report to the House that His Excellency the Governor was pleased to address the Legislature on 13th January 1969 and I place a copy of the Address on the Table of the House.

Address delivered by the Governor of Mysore to the State Legislature.

Honourable Members of the Legislature,

I have great pleasure in extending you all a warm welcome on this occasion of my second address to the joint session of the Mysore Houses of Legislature.

It is appropriate to place before the Honourable Members an account of some of the outstanding events which engaged the attention of the Government since I addressed you last. The most important event, of which you are aware, is the elections to the Taluk Development Boards which were held from November 16 to November 27, 1968 and went off in an orderly and peaceful manner. The State has 174 Taluk Development Boards with a total number of 1,02,90,234 voters. Out of this nearly 67 per cent exercised their votes. In respect of a few Taluk Development Boards elections will be held later in the year after disposal of certain writ petitions. In the early part of the year 1968, elections to the Panchayats were held after regrouping of revenue villages. As a result of this regrouping the number of Village Panchayats in the State increased from 7,454 to 8,358. Government is continually alive to the problem of strengthening the Panchayat Raj institutions to enable them to serve the rural community in an effective manner. It is proposed to secure active association of the Panchayat Raj institutions in the implementation of land reforms. Government have also taken steps to make over the entire proceeds of land revenue to the Panchayat Raj institutions with a view to augment their resources for developmental activities.

The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Mysore and Mysore and Kerala was referred to the One-Man Commission under the Chairmanship of Sri Mehr Chand Mahajan on 25th October 1966. The Commission after a thorough enquiry gave its report on 25th August 1967 and this was released on 4th November 1967. As the Honourable Members are aware the Mysore Legislature considered the report in December 1967 and resolved to urge the Government of India to implement the recommendations of the Commission. Acting on this approval by the Legislature, Government has been pressing the Central Government to accept the findings of the Commission without any further delay. However it is a matter of regret that no decision has been so far taken by them. My Government has taken a stand that the recommendations of the Mahajan

Commission should be treated as an Award and implemented *in toto*. It is an imperative necessity that this vexed question should be finally settled in the near future.

The year 1969 is being celebrated as the Gandhi Centenary Year in India and in many parts of the world. Bapuji's message and teachings are as relevant to the present time in history as they were when he was with us. Mahatmaji lived and gave up his life for the establishment of a social order in which there will be equality of status and opportunity for all citizens in India irrespective of caste, creed or religion. These ideals have also been enshrined in our Constitution. But the fulfilment of the objectives requires the combined efforts of all communities in the country. Government have decided to celebrate the Centenary in a fitting manner. A State level Committee has been constituted for the purpose. The Committee has drawn up a detailed programme of constructive activities for the fulfilment of Gandhiji's dream of a new India and to bring a new hope to the teeming millions of this great country. I am sure Honourable Members will fully co-operate in the efforts to fulfil the task set by the Father of the Nation.

There have been persistent demands for using Kannada as the language of the administration in the State. There can be no difference of opinion on the imperative need to make Kannada as the language of the administration. In pursuance of the declared policy of the Government several steps have been taken. At the taluk level Kannada has been made the language of administration. To facilitate the work in the various offices and to guide the Government officials in the use of Kannada language, a manual of office procedure—"Karyalayada Kaipidi"—has been published. The Kaipidi was prepared in record time by a Committee under the able Chairmanship of Dr. Masti Venkatesa Iyengar.

With this preamble I shall now briefly survey the progress achieved by the Government in the several departments.

SCARCITY CONDITIONS AND RELIEF MEASURES

Seasonal conditions were bad in 1968 and for the fourth year in succession. The pre-monsoon showers held out some promise of a good season, but the long dry spell in the critical months of July and August seriously affected Kharif sowings and brought on severe agricultural distress in 136 Taluks comprising 16,000 villages. Government took timely action to tackle the situation by an integrated programme of relief works. An outlay of about Rs. 9 crores was sanctioned and implemented. An expenditure of over Rs. 7 crores has already been incurred on relief works. About 8,700 works were in progress by the middle of December 1968, with a daily attendance of 2,16,000 persons. In order to counteract any possible malnutrition on the vulnerable sections of the population, a massive programme for providing a daily nutritious meal to the school-going and pre-school children, nursing and

expectant mothers were undertaken with the co-operation of the CARE Organisation. The average daily attendance in 4,471 Centres is about 7,84,000 beneficiaries. To the aged and infirm destitutes, free distribution of grain was arranged and a sum of Rs. 48 lakhs allotted for the purpose.

A Central team of officers headed by the Programme Administration Adviser, Planning Commission, toured this State several times. Central assistance to the extent of Rs. 5.13 crores has so far been received and further assistance has been asked for.

It will be remembered that while considering the scarcity situation in the the State at the last Session, the two Houses of the Legislature unanimously passed a resolution calling upon the Government to frame a 20-crore plan for Scarcity Relief. This has been done and measures designed not only to meet the immediate need but also to provide insurance against recurrence of scarcity conditions have been incorporated in the Special Programme which has been sent to the Government of India.

LAND REVENUE, RECORDS AND REFORMS

The importance of having an up-to-date record of rights as a prerequisite for implementing the Land Reforms Programme has been recognised and in a Intensive Agricultural Development Programme District—Mandya—an intensive programme for updating land records has been undertaken with the assistance of the Goverment of India. A similar Crash Programme is being initiated in all Districts as it is felt that the imperfections in the maintenance of records of rights has impeded the flow of institutional finance to agriculturists.

Bound 'Receipt Pattas' are under print for distribution to all holders of land at a nominal charge. These Patta Forms will be in the nature of Pass Books giving all relevant information pertaining to the holding in regard to the land revenue payable and paid as also any encumbrances on the land.

The abolition of privileged tenures under the existing enactment is underway. Occupancy rights have been conferred on tenants in respect of more than 5 lakh acres and compensation has been paid to the extent of Rs. 2.5 crores to the Inamdars both in cash and in bonds. The scheme of abolition of several other Inams in the State is engaging the attention of Government.

The implementation of the Mysore Land Reforms Act, 1961, is in progress. Seventy-seven Land Tribunals presided over by Munsiffs have been constituted, of whom 53 handle both Land Reforms and other civil matters and 24 are whole-time Land Tribunals. In the light of the experience gained, certain amendments to the Land Reforms Act have been processed for consideration.

PLANNING

During the course of the year 1968 detailed discussions were held between the State Government and the Planning Commission on the preparation of the Fourth Five-Year Plan for the five-year period commencing from April 1, 1969. A State Planning Board was constituted in May 1968 with the Minister for Finance, Planning and Youth Welfare as the Chairman. The Planning Board has undertaken a detailed analysis of our resources and also the sectoral allocations which could be made to ensure balanced development of the State.

The Planning Commission evolved a set of criteria for equitable allocation of Central assistance among the States, which were discussed at a meeting of the Committee of the National Development Council.

According to these criteria, 60 per cent of the Central assistance should be distributed on the basis of population of each State and the balance on the basis of per capita income taxation and to meet the special problems of the States. The quantum of assistance to be given to our State will be determined on this basis. The State Government is also expected to raise resources to the maximum extent possible. However, the State will have considerable freedom in making allocations according to its requirements and work out its own scheme of priorities consistent with the national priorities. It is proposed to accord high priority to the completion of schemes of irrigation and power projects and agricultural production. In the other sectors, particularly social services, it is proposed to concentrate more on qualitative improvement rather than on mere expansion.

The total size of the Fourth Plan will depend upon the resources that we can mobilize. Therefore, vigorous and continual efforts will have to be made in this direction. The advice of the Honourable Members in the matter of raising additional resources would be valued.

FINANCE COMMISSION

The State Government has submitted its final memorandum to the Finance Commission on the various points arising out of its terms of reference. The Commission visited the State during the month and held discussions. The State memorandum has been appreciated and it is hoped that the Commission will consider the State case sympathetically and give a fair award.

AGRICULTURE

As a cumulative result of a number of short-term and long-term measures undertaken by the Department, it has been possible to achieve a real breakthrough in agricultural production in spite of the handicap of the adverse effect of delayed rains on the Kharif crop in certain parts of the State. A notable feature of agricultural development has been the enthusiastic response of the cultivator to the high-yielding varieties

programme launched by the Department. The area under these high yielding improved seeds increased to 4.16 lakhs acres in 1967-68. The area covered under Mexican wheat so far during the year is 58,000 acres. There was adequate stock of fertilisers, seeds and chemicals to meet the needs of farmers. Considerable progress was achieved in soil conservation and plant protection work. Training programmes for inculcating improved and more efficient techniques of production received due attention. Besides the farmers' training institutes at Hebbal and Gangavati, two more institutes are being set up at Kudige and Arabhavi. The Mysore State Agro-Industries Corporation has helped the farmer in obtaining tractors, pump-sets, etc., on favourable terms. Other important items of work like Intensive Agricultural Area Programmes and Intensive Agricultural District Programmes have been progressing satisfactorily. Four taluks of Bellary District and five taluks of Raichur District which are under the command of Tungabhadra project have been declared as Intensive Agricultural District Programme Area so that the developmental activities could be intensified and the progress of the area accelerated. The increased mechanisation of agriculture in the State has necessitated the need for good servicing organisations and Government are taking steps to establish such organisations at regional levels.

The University of Agricultural Sciences proposes to start an Institute of Agricultural Engineering at Raichur from the next academic year with the assistance of the State and Central Governments. The University has already made valuable contributions to the improvement of agriculture by releasing four improved varieties in Jowar, 3 in Cotton, 2 in Groundnut, one each in Sugarcane, Ragi, Bengalgram and Safflower. Among these, the Cotton variety 'Vijaya' and white Ragi variety 'Hamsa' have already gained popularity.

HORTICULTURE

During 1968-69, 48 schemes were implemented by the Department of Horticulture. These schemes have helped in tiding over the food problems, to some extent, and have also helped in earning foreign exchange for the State. During the Fourth Plan period, due consideration will be given for the development of fruits, vegetables, cashew, coconut, arecanut and spices. With the financial assistance from the Agricultural Refinance Corporation, special development schemes in respect of areca, coconut, orange and pineapple have been sanctioned. The Department continues to supply quality seedlings and provide technical advice to the cultivators.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The programme of eradication of rinderpest among cattle and mass prophylactic vaccination of cattle was continued during the year 1968.

It is proposed to start a unit for the preparation of vaccine for combating Foot and Mouth disease at Hebbal. In order to improve veterinary aid, 44 rural veterinary dispensaries were sanctioned and 20 rural veterinary dispensaries were upgraded, thus raising the total to 692. Intensive Cattle Development Programmes have been continued with more inputs to intensify the production of milk in the Bangalore Milk Shed area. A second Intensive Cattle Development Project and an Intensive Egg and Poultry Production-cum-Marketing Centre have also been sanctioned recently for the Hubli-Dharwar Milk Shed area. A centralised Semen Collection Centre for breeding programme in the Tungabhadra Intensive Agricultural Development Project area has been established this year.

Government Milk Supply Scheme at Hubli-Dharwar was commissioned recently. The dairy equipments under Swedish credits and Danish credits were received for milk supply schemes at Hubli-Dharwar, Mangalore and Bhadravathi.

FISHERIES

A major development during the three Annual Plans has been the implementation of co-operative fisheries projects financed by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation in South Kanara and North Kanara Districts.

During the Plan period 1967-68, over 100 mechanised boats have been added to the fishing fleet. On the inland side, two crores of fish seeds were produced and stocked in various tanks and reservoirs. 3 ice-plants, cold storage and processing plants at Manoor, Kaup and Mercara have been commissioned during the year 1968. It is proposed to add 115 mechanised boats to the fishing fleet. The development of fishing harbours at Malpe and Honnavar are expected to be taken up in due course. There is a proposal to set up a State Fisheries Development Corporation to undertake deep sea fishing. The Government of India have approved the scheme of constructing a fishing harbour at Karwar at an estimated cost of Rs. 23.84 lakhs under the Indo-Norwegian Project and work has been taken up.

Messrs. Indopol, an Indo-Polish Enterprise, have prepared a feasibility report on fish industry in Mangalore, Malpe, Honnavar, Coondapur, Tadri and Karwar. The feasibility report is being examined.

FORESTS

Intensive afforestation programme under the Plan schemes is being implemented. It is proposed to cover an area of 4,40,000 acres with teak, eucalyptus, softwood, cashew, fuel and other species. There is also a programme to raise rubber plantations over 3,000 acres during 1969-70 besides 4,872 acres already in existence on which repatriates of Indian origin from Ceylon will be settled.

Raising of essential oil plantations which yield oil of commercial value has been taken up in an area of about 1,300 acres.

'Forest Research Survey' is being conducted with the object of making an assessment of the forest resources of the State in a comprehensive manner for starting industries based on forest products.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

The Food policy for the Crop-Year 1968-69, which commenced from September, 1, 1968, was finalised after detailed consideration in the light of past experience, and several modifications were brought into force, some of which are as follows.

The procurement of ragi and bajra has been discontinued. Only paddy and jowar are being procured this year. The procurement prices of all varieties of paddy have been increased by Rs. 3 per quintal; and an additional price of Rs. 2 per quintal is being given for all varieties of paddy for prompt delivery of levy by the grower giving in all an increase of Rs. 5 per quintal over the previous prices. In both flood-affected and drought-affected areas, provision for exemption from levy on the basis of 'Annevari' has been made. Provision have also been made for concession in levy in the case of rain-fed paddy lands of low productivity. The exemption limit of 'one acre' in the the Levy Orders has been re-defined to apply to each particular levy crop, irrespective of the total extent of the grower's holding. Normally, Co-operatives are the principal agents of Government at all stages of food operations. But, in exceptional cases, the policy has been made flexible enough to provide for alternative agencies for procurement of foodgrains, as also for milling of paddy.

While the allotment of wheat by the Government of India has improved from July 1968, the allotment of milo has been reduced drastically. The allotment of rice by the Government of India has been stopped altogether from September 1, 1968 in view of the difficult situation in the country as a whole in respect of rice. The in-take of wheat has been increased in all the Districts since September 1968.

As a result of the continuance of the partial decontrol of sugar, the distribution of allotment of levy sugar has been restricted to domestic consumers and pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Although the food situation in the State is not satisfactory in all respects, at present, there is no cause for alarm or anxiety.

CO-OPERATION

Measures have been taken to strengthen the Co-operative Movement in the State. The District Central Co-operative Banks have extended medium and long-term loans to the extent of Rs. 25.20 crores, of which an amount of Rs. 1.40 crores has been provided to the weaker section of the society. Under the guidance of the Reserve Bank of India, action has been taken to rehabilitate five District Central Co-operative Banks. The Central Co-operative Land Development Bank has so far advanced

long-term credit for the construction of 33,800 irrigation wells. A plan to energise one lakh irrigation wells at a cost of Rs. 28 crores has been taken up. So far, 7,590 irrigation wells have been energised. With the assistance of the Agricultural Finance Corporation, a number of new schemes such as reclamation of land, development of fisheries, development of fruit cultivation, etc., involving a total financial outlay of Rs. 19.60 crores have been taken up.

In the consumer co-operative sector, 34 wholesale co-operative consumer societies and 1,330 primary co-operative consumer stores have been organised. There are nine Janata Bazaars in the State functioning under the guidance of the Co-operative Department. It is proposed to open three more Janata Bazaars during the current year. The Janata Bazaars have helped the Government in implementing the policy of holding price-line to some extent.

With a view to improving the quality and efficiency of audit, one hundred posts of junior auditors have been upgraded as senior auditors enabling appointment of qualified graduates as auditors. Arrangements have also been made to train these auditors adequately. Besides it is proposed to set up an Audit Cell at the Government level to have effective control over the Societies.

EDUCATION

In the field of pre-primary education, the Training Syllabus for Nursery Teachers has been upgraded. At present nearly 5 lakhs of children in the age-group 3 to 5 are benefiting by the Mid-day Meals Programme. In addition 8 lakhs children are receiving Mid-day Meals in Primary Schools.

Considerable progress has been achieved in the sphere of primary education. One hundred and thirty-three new primary schools have been sanctioned for villages which did not have primary schools so far, bringing the total number of primary schools in the State to 32,165. Four more evening training colleges have been started for training primary school teachers. Three additional centres have been opened for giving special training in the teaching of English at the primary level. A notable feature is the starting of a separate course for training primary school teachers in the teaching of science. It is also proposed to develop model primary schools in every taluk and appoint graduate teachers as Head Masters of higher primary schools.

Notable progress can also be discerned in the realm of secondary education. Eighty-seven additional high schools including two Government high schools were started during the year. Forty-nine more high schools were permitted to open Standard XI. Government have decided to accept the recommendations of the Education Commission with regard to the reorganisation of the curriculum in high school. Accordingly a revised syllabus has been approved. The main features of the new syllabus are, the abolition of elective subjects at the IX and X

Standards and the upgrading of the standard of teaching of general science, mathematics, and social studies. Provision has also been made for examining talented students at an advanced level in all subjects.

Efforts to improve the quality of text-books prescribed for schools continue. More and more books will be nationalised and Government have decided that for each subject there will be a common text-book throughout the State. The Text Book Press at Mysore is being equipped. In addition a bigger Press gifted by the West German Government is to be established in Mysore. This will have a capacity for producing 40 lakhs books per year. This Press is meant for the Southern region. We expect to make full use of this Press when it is commissioned. Government have also increased the remuneration to be paid for authors, scrutinisers and printers. These measures are expected to result in improved quality of text-books in the coming years.

Government are aware that the rapid expansion in the field of education in the last 10 years has lowered the standards. It is, therefore, proposed to stress schemes of qualitative improvement during the Fourth Plan and consolidate the progress already achieved. New schools and colleges will be permitted to be opened only if it is absolutely necessary.

In the field of University Education an important development is the establishment of a post-graduate centre at Mangalore during the year 1968. It is proposed to establish a centre at Gulbarga also during the Fourth Plan.

The process of adopting Kannada as a medium of instruction at the University level was accelerated during 1968 by the publication of several text-books in Kannada by the Universities in this State. Government have also established a Board for the development of Kannada language with the Minister for Education as Chairman.

Encouragement of Artists, Writers and Sportsmen continued to receive adequate attention of Government. Two more Writers were sanctioned honoraria of Rs. 250 per month during 1968. The State Poet Laureate Dr. K. V. Puttappa had the signal honour of receiving the Bharatiya Jnanpith award during the year. I take this opportunity of congratulating him.

Government want to encourage Physical Education and proficiency in sports and games. Accordingly, in the current year 434 scholarships had been instituted for students exhibiting proficiency in sports. Government have also a scheme to diversify youth activities by establishing National Service Corps and National Sports Organisation in the State. Additional funds will be provided for Youth Welfare activities during the Fourth Plan.

YOUTH WELFARE

A new portfolio of " Youth Welfare " has been created and placed in charge of a Cabinet Minister. A decision has also been taken to set up

a State Board for youth welfare to co-ordinate all activities relating to youth welfare.

MAJOR, MEDIUM AND MINOR IRRIGATION

Ten major and twenty-six medium irrigation projects estimated to cost Rs. 318.05 crores were taken up for execution during the past three Plan periods. An amount of Rs. 95.65 crores has been spent on these projects to the end of Third Plan period and an irrigation potential of 9.03 lakhs acres has been created. Concerted efforts are being made continually to increase the potential. By the end of 1968-69 the anticipated expenditure and the potential is Rs. 129.04 crores and 11.64 lakhs acres respectively. It is proposed to spend Rs. 10.25 crores during the year 1969-70 on these works. The two major projects, viz., Bhadra and Tungabhadra are in advanced stages of implementation. Substantial area under these two projects has been brought under irrigation. It is hoped that in a couple of years, the entire Ayacut of 11.18 lakhs acres under these two projects would be supplied with water for irrigation. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, Government of India have decided to refer the Krishna Water Dispute to a Tribunal for adjudication.

Regarding minor irrigation works a sum of Rs. 400 lakhs will be spent by the end of the current year on several works and irrigation facilities for about 33,000 acres will be provided besides stabilising supply of water for 37,400 acres. The cumulative potential created during the last three Plan periods by the minor irrigation works will be nearly 3.45 lakhs acres.

POWER

It is gratifying to note that four of the six units of the second phase of the Sharavathi Valley Project have already been commissioned and the fifth unit will also be ready for commissioning by March 1969. When these units start functioning the capacity of 6,23,700 kW. would have been realised.

Investigation of Kalinadi Project having been completed, it is proposed to include this project in the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

By the end of the Third Plan period 5,516 villages had been electrified and 42,288 irrigation pumpsets energised. During 1967-68 as many as 1,801 villages were electrified and 28,901 irrigation pumpsets energised. During the current year, it is proposed to electrify 500 villages and energise 20,000 irrigation pumpsets. Owing to the limited resources of the Mysore State Electricity Board, it has not been possible to undertake large scale rural electrification programme in the State. Government have, therefore, decided to subsidise partially the interest charges to be paid by the Board on the loans drawn from the Scheduled Banks for this purpose.

As custodians of abundant power, it becomes our duty to help others in need of electricity. The Maharashtra Government is experiencing a shortage of power at present and as a measure of goodwill, Government have agreed to give power to that State. A 220 kV. line from Belgaum to Kholapur is being laid and it is expected to be ready within six months. The work is proceeding rapidly so that, we may help our neighbouring State to tide over their difficulty.

COMMUNICATIONS

The road mileage in the State has been more than doubled during the last 12 years, the present mileage being 27,624 miles. During the current year an amount of Rs. 261.22 lakhs is likely to be spent on the improvement of existing roads, addition of new roads and construction of a few bridges. An outlay of Rs. 150 lakhs is proposed during 1969-70.

INDUSTRIES

Government have recently constituted the Mysore State Industrial Development Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister. The Committee consists of eminent industrialists and experts from both within the State and outside. The object of the Committee is to draw up an integrated plan for the development of large, medium and small scale industries and also to suggest ways and means to accelerate the industrial development in the State. Besides, under the aegis of the Mysore Industrial Areas Development Board, a special machinery has been set up for acquiring lands in the declared 'Industrial growth area'.

In order to encourage individual entrepreneurs to establish new industries Government have decided to give several incentives such as subsidy towards preparation of feasibility reports, reduction in water rates, rebates of electricity tariff, price preference, concession in sales tax and Octroi duties, etc.

As a result of several measures taken by Government, the climate for starting new industries in the State has become very favourable. A number of entrepreneurs are approaching Government for necessary assistance and Government are doing all that lies in their power to help them.

During the current year the Mysore Acetate Company has started production and has already supplied their products to some parties like Hindustan Photo Films Ltd. The expansion programme of the Mysore Sugar Mills has been completed.

The Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. has been producing some items of special steel and supplying them to several parties all over the country.

In the light of the experience gained so far the programme of construction of industrial estates has been streamlined. Construction of additional industrial estates has been planned in Bangalore, Hubli and Belgaum to meet the growing demand from the Industrialists.

MINES AND GEOLOGY

The Mysore Minerals Ltd., which has been set up for systematic development and exploitation of mineral deposits in Mysore has drawn up a programme for an over-all turn over of Rs. 2.5 crores during the current year.

Development of Magnetite Ore in Kudremukh-Gangamula region has been taken up by National Mineral Development Corporation of India. Preliminary investigations have been completed and pilot plant tests on amenability of ore for treatment and exports are being undertaken. A project report on exploitation of iron ore deposits of Donimalai range for annual production of 4 million tonnes of ore has been prepared.

The Chitradurga Copper Co., Ltd., has started exploratory work at Ingaldhal. As soon as sufficient ore reserves are blocked out necessary action will be taken for producing Copper concentrates.

EXPORTS

The Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravathi, has been able to export Ferro-Silicen, Pig Iron and Steel of the total value of about Re. 98 lakhs to Japan and other countries. The New Government Electric Factory Ltd. has also entered into the export market and the total export this year are expected to be of the value of about Rs. 25 lakhs. The Mysore Minerals Ltd. are also exporting Iron ore of the value of about Rs. 80 lakhs this year. With the experience they have gained they will be developing their exports further in future years.

HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME

By 31st March, 1969, 400 more beds will have been added to the Civil Hospitals at Davangere, Gulbarga and Hospitals at District Headquarters.

Government have taken steps to start degree courses in Shuddha Ayurveda at the Government Ayurvedic College, Mysore and the Jayachamarajendra Institute of Indian Medicine, Bangalore.

The Trachoma Control Programme has been started on a pilot project basis in the District of South Kanara.

In the Malaria Eradication Programme three-fourths of State has entered into the maintenance phase and in the remaining area of the State the eradication procedures are in full swing.

The School Health Programme has been implemented in 65 Primary Health Centres in the State.

The Neuro-Surgery Block in the premises of the Mental Hospital, Bangalore, is progressing satisfactorily and it is expected that it might be commissioned soon.

Government attach very high importance to the Leprosy Control and T. B. Control programmes and are devoting considerable attention to these programmes in the State.

In pursuance of the national policy, Government have initiated a drive to implement family planning programme. It is proposed to train 200 Dais in family planning work. More beds are to be provided in the Hospitals for family planning cases. A mass education programme in family planning will also be undertaken. A Family Planning Cell has been established in the Mysore Government Secretariat for the implementation of the programme. A target of 84,465 and 1,68,390 are proposed for Intra-Uterine Contraceptive Device and Sterilisation respectively.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Government will continue to attach the great importance to finding ways and means of ameliorating the conditions of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of population. Particular attention is being paid to improve the opportunities available to these sections to better their educational prospects and standards. Facilities available in various hostels run by Government and private bodies are being augmented. Several schemes for their economic improvement including employment opportunities under Government and other Government sponsored agencies are under active consideration.

WATER SUPPLY AND MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

Work on the first stage of the scheme for the supply of Cauvery water to Bangalore City has commenced. The scheme will ensure an additional supply of 30 million gallons a day to the city. Upto the end of March 1964, out of 215 towns in the State, 126 towns had been provided with protected water supply benefiting a population of 42.66 lakhs. Seven towns have been provided with drainage facilities benefiting a population of 13.82 lakhs. It is expected that during 1969-70 about twelve water supply schemes and two drainage schemes will be completed at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 90 lakhs.

It is of interest to the Hon'ble Members that the free allowance of water supply to the citizens of Bangalore has been made more liberal, having regard to the recommendations of the Estimates Committee. There was an agitation on this score and I hope the liberal policy enunciated will meet the wishes of the Bangalore public. The Cycle Tax levied in the City of Bangalore has also been abolished with effect from the new year.

The question of octroi is engaging the attention of the Government. Government will go into the question and see what kind of rationalisation has to be introduced to relieve the burden on enterprising industrialists.

The importance of providing drinking water to rural areas can hardly be stressed.. So far 198 schemes for providing drinking water have been completed. Four hundred and seventy-one schemes are in different stages of execution. Two hundred and fifty schemes are under the consideration of Government. It is proposed to take up more schemes under the Fourth Plan period.

Government have already decided to provide drinking water wells for every village which has no drinking water facility. So far, 11,256 wells have been provided. 3,486 wells are in various stages of execution. However, there are still about 3,288 villages including hamlets without wells. Action will be taken to construct wells in these villages and hamlets urgently.

LAW AND ORDER

During the year 1968, the situation in regard to law and order in the State was generally satisfactory. There were however, some disturbances here and there. Following the enunciation of the language policy by the Union Education Minister and the passing of the Official Languages Bill by Parliament there were anti-Hindi demonstrations by certain section of the student community in Bangalore, Mysore and other places. Communal trouble broke out in a few places in 1968. But these situations were effectively handled by the police and peace and order were restored very expeditiously. Timely action was also taken by the Government to award compensation to those who suffered in communal disturbances.

While there was a downward trend in the crimes of house-breaking and theft, cattle theft, etc., some other crimes like dacoity, robbery, etc., registered a slight increase. The police were able to arrest seven of the criminals involved in highway robberies which agitated the minds of the travelling public. Strong preventive measures have been taken against the recurrence of such crime on our highways.

It is a matter for satisfaction that the State Crime Branch, C.I.D. and the District Police have succeeded in unearthing the sources of counterfeit currency in circulation. Several persons involved in these serious offences have been rounded up and are being dealt with according to the law.

The smuggling of foodgrains has also been effectively checked. A total quantity of 38,784 quintals of foodgrains valued at Rs. 41,11,110 was seized during the year 1968.

Government are very keenly alive to the need for providing basic amenities to the members of the Police Force. The construction of quarters for the policemen in the State under the Centrally-sponsored Police Housing Scheme which was taken up in 1958 has been progressing satisfactorily and a larger number of quarters meant for the different categories of police officials has been completed. It is proposed to construct more quarters for the police officials during the year 1969-70.

Those guarding law and order have to be housed and no efforts will be spared to provide good accommodation to the members of the police service.

HOME GUARDS

The Government of India have fixed for this State a strength of 15,000 Home Guards. As against this there are at present 12,342 Home Guards. In order to step up the enrolment of volunteers to the Home Guards force, it is proposed to start New Units in a few more places. Since December 1967, a combined Central Home Guards and Civil Defence Training Institute has been functioning in Bangalore. The object of the Institute is to give advanced and specialised training to the Home Guards in fire fighting, rescue operations, etc. The Home Guards have been a source of sustained assistance to the Police all over the State in the maintenance of Law and Order.

PRISONS

In the State prisons, increasing emphasis is laid on the reformatory aspect of the punishment during the custody of the prisoners. In line with this policy, for the first time in the State, an open air jail has been started at Saundatti in Belgaum District from April 25, 1968. The special features are that security arrangements are minimised and the prisoners are allowed a considerable amount of freedom in addition to an opportunity for earning good wages from remunerative work like digging of canals, etc.

ROAD TRANSPORT

During the year 1968 the Mysore State Road Transport Corporation made further strides in its programme of progressive nationalisation of bus routes. The approved schemes of Mangalore and Shimoga sectors were implemented with effect from July 1, 1968. Services on 79 new routes—31 routes in Mangalore and 48 routes in Shimoga sectors—were taken over for operations. These new schemes cover 40,626 service kms. per day. A major scheme of nationalisation in Kolar sector has been implemented with effect from January 1, 1969. Under this scheme 87 notified routes covering 29,730 service kms. daily have been taken over by the Corporation. Besides this, in the existing areas of operation the services are being augmented to cater to the needs of different localities.

Considerable progress has also been achieved in the provision of increased amenities and facilities given to the travelling public as also in improving the working conditions of the employees. A new luxury night service is proposed to be started between Bangalore and Bellary shortly.

LABOUR

The Industrial and Labour-Management relations in the State have been satisfactory. The Industrial relations machinery of the State has been effective in intervening and securing settlement of disputes raised by the workers. In order to avoid delay in the adjudication of disputes, Government have set up one more Labour Court at Mangalore. The additional Industrial Tribunal which is functioning at Bangalore has also been continued for further period of one year. Upto the end of October, 1968, there were only 49 strikes involving 64,831 workers and resulting in the loss of 5,01,941 mandays. These figures undoubtedly reflect a positive improvement in labour relations over the previous years.

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been extended to the workers employed in the Industries situated in the suburbs of Bangalore from November 24, 1968. Hospitalisation facilities have been made available to the families of insured persons in Bangalore City. In Mangalore, the panel system—providing medical facilities to the insured persons through clinics of private practitioners—has been replaced by service system, i.e., providing medical facilities to the insured persons through dispensaries. It is hoped that this change will result in better medical facilities being made available to insured persons at less costs.

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

The Department has reoriented its programmes in order to lay greater emphasis on arranging exhibitions, documentary films and news reels, photographic display, strengthening the rural broadcasting organisation and radio rural forums. The Department has installed nearly 3,900 Community Radio sets and has organised 1,000 radio rural forums. A permanent exhibition cell is being set up in order to organise exhibitions on a regular and phased basis in all district headquarters in the State. It is also proposed to organise mobile exhibitions in the interior parts of the State.

A Song and Drama Unit has recently been organised and it has proved effective in organising publicity through this popular medium. Plays, skits, Harikathas, lavanies and other cultural programmes are used for publicity purposes.

A number of films portraying the developmental activities in the Divisions have been produced and more have been taken on hand.

Publications on Industry and exports of the State have been widely distributed and a series of feature articles on the various developmental activities released to the Press.

FILM UNIT

Previously, the Government had instituted schemes for grant of subsidy for films produced in the State and of cash awards to the three

best Kannada feature films. While these schemes gave a fillip to the Industry, it was felt that with a view to serving as an incentive to produce films of a high standard it would be necessary also to give recognition to the directors, actors, actresses, story writers, music directors, play-back singers, camera-men and sound engineers. Therefore recently a scheme has been sanctioned for the grant of cash awards and for giving certificates of merit to these persons.

TOURISM

The tempo of activities for the promotion of tourism has been stepped up with the result there has been a marked increase in the number of tourists visiting the State. To attract more tourists to the State several schemes are on hand for provision of accommodation, transport, food and entertainment to foreign tourists, at places of tourist interest. Preliminary work on the construction of Airports at Bijapur and Hassan has commenced.

PAY COMMISSION

The State Government appointed the Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. K. Tukol of Mysore High Court as a One-man Pay Commission on 17th November 1966.

The Commission has since submitted its final report, copies of which have already been supplied to the Hon'ble Members.

Comprehensive recommendations regarding Pay Scales, Dearness Allowance and for streamlining administration and improving efficiency have been made. In view of the financial and other implications of these recommendations Government will be glad to have the views of the Hon'ble Members, before it takes necessary decisions.

LEGISLATION

A few Bills placed before you in the previous Sessions could not be taken up for want of time. These and the following new Bills are proposed to be placed before you for your consideration :—

1. The Mysore Religious and Charitable Institutions and Trusts Bills, 1969.
2. The City of Bangalore Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
3. The Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
4. The Mysore Legislature Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
5. The Mysore Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
6. The Mysore Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
7. The Indian Registration (Mysore Amendment) Bill, 1969.
8. The Mysore Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1969.

9. The Mysore Police (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
10. The Mysore Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
11. The University of Agricultural Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 1969.
12. The Motor Vehicles (Mysore Amendment) Bill, 1969.
13. The Mysore Beedi Industrial Premises (Regulation of Conditions of Work) Repealing Bill, 1969.
14. The Mysore State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Bill, 1969.

Democracy thrives on discussion, and in the process each idea has to undergo intensive examination and test before it is embodied in a final decision. The democratic experiment to which we are wedded carries with it the spirit of give and take. I hope, Honourable Members will lend their helping hand to surmount many difficulties confronting the State. Destiny has cast upon you all in your representative roles the heavy responsibility of helping the people of Mysore State to solve their problems. I am sure you will discharge your obligations in a fitting manner.

With this brief review, I conclude my address and once again extend my greeting and best wishes to you all for success in your deliberations. I earnestly hope your endeavours will be fruitful and help to formulate such wise and carefully considered decisions as will contribute to the progress and prosperity of the State.

Jai Hind

Papers laid on the Table

Sri VEERENDRA PATIL (Chief Minister).—I beg to lay :

(a) (i) The Annual Report of the Mysore Public Service Commission for the year 1965-66;

No. GAD 49 SBC 66, dated 7th October 1968;

under Article 323 (2) of the Constitution of India.

(ii) Amendments to the Hindu Marriages (Mysore) Rules 1966; Notification No. HD 20 PIM 67 dated 18th November 1968;

under Section 8 (3) of the Hindu Marriages Act.

(b) Annual Financial Statement of the M.S.E.B. for 1968-69 Volume II pertaining to details of establishment;

under Section 61 (3) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.